

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes - February 16, 2011

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### **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m.

Those present were: Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township Supervisor; Pamela Boyd, MDOT Planner; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Tom Ryder, Bay County Board of Commissioners; Jack Wheatley, Rowe Engineering representing Bay City; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township; and Dirk Westbury BCATS staff.

### **Introductions:**

Lillo introduced Tom Ryder, County Commission and had everyone go around the table and introduce themselves. Welcome Tom!

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Augustyniak, seconded by Boyd, to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2010 meeting. Motion Passed.

### **Public Comment:**

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

### **Update From Bay Metro Transit:**

Stoner was not present as he was attending a regional transit connection meeting with Saginaw and Midland Transit operators.

### **BCATS Flexible Match:**

Engelhardt discussed the history of Flexible Match used by BCATS and explained the need to switch to a cash match versus flexible match in FY 2012. Cash match can be reimbursed to the local agencies for performing eligible work items such as traffic counts. The change would require MOU's between BCATS and the local agencies with the fee based on percent of lane miles. The question was raised on who should be the signers of the MOU. It was indicated that whom ever has the authority to pay the fee to BCATS would be the signer. Boyd will look in to more information regarding the MOU's and what would need to be done to make this option work.

Engelhardt would like to extend a thanks to the Bay County Road Commission for the work done on the Safe Routes to School Project which was eligible as flexible match. Without that work, BCATS would have not been able to meet the required flexible match total in FY 2010 and possibly FY 2011.

### **BCATS Non-Motorized Plan Update:**

Engelhardt reported to the committee on the status of the Non-Motorized plan. Currently the plan is being reviewed by Bay City staff, and it will likely go into the city planning efforts, possible included as part of the next update of the city's master plan. Full review by other agencies will also be needed, after which

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adoption by BCATS can occur.

### **2010 Aerial Photography:**

Engelhardt informed the committee that the 2010 Bay County Aerial Photography is now available on the Bay County GIS website. This project was funded from multiple funding sources, including BCATS, the USGS, various county departments, Dow Chemical, and the Bay County Road Commission. Engelhardt would like to see this data be the catalyst to lead to more data sharing connections between the county, city, and townships.

### **2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):**

Engelhardt explained the purpose and uses of the Travel Demand Model and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This model is current being updated and will be a time of day model with initial results expected in March.

### **Asset Management Report:**

Engelhardt discussed the Asset Management Report that solely focuses on the Bay City Asphalt Federal Aid Roads and how it shows a truer cost of funds needed to preserve and maintain the existing road system. Engelhardt would like to expand the report to cover the other agencies and include that information into the MTP to show that there is insufficient funding to just preserve and maintain the existing Federal Aid eligible system, let alone improve the current ratings over time.

### **Training Opportunities:**

Lillo made note of several upcoming training opportunities in the area include IRT training on 2/23, Safe Routes to School Training on 4/8, ADA Training on 4/18, and PASER training on 3/16. Lillo stated that he plans on attending the Safe Routes to Schools training to inform those attending of his first hand experience with the program.

### **Projects Update:**

The **Walnut St Project** is planned for after July 4<sup>th</sup>. The project is not federally funded and will reconstruct Walnut from Vermont to the Vet's Bridge. The **Adams St Project** between Columbus and McKinley is currently in the planning phase and is a local road project. Westbury inquired about a portion of this road as being used as an alternate bicycle route for one in the non-motorized plan, but it would require the road to be converted to a two-way road. The **Critical Bridge Projects (Independence and Liberty Bridge)** are set to start soon with maintenance on the bridges. Wheatley was unsure if the project will required temporary total bridge closure during the construction phase. The **Midland Road Project** has the GI scheduled fro March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The BCRC and Monitor Twp. planning on informing all the residents in the subdivision off of the effected roadway as an informational. MDOT's five-year program has yet to be approved, but due to Canadian Funding for state match on the Detroit River International Crossing the state may be able to have a fully funded program through 2013.

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### **Other/New Business:**

#### ***Mayor's Community Revitalization Committee:***

Engelhardt and Lillo both attended the Mayor's Community Revitalization Committee meeting which is looking to work together with the cities, county and townships to leverage grant funding from HUD, EPA, DOT. It will need 50% of the local agencies involved. Boyd was familiar with the program from Oakland County and stated the it contains lots of paper work and documentation.

#### ***Mackinaw Rd/US-10 Interchange:***

Brandt brought up the issues at the Mackinaw Rd US-10 interchange and was wondering when MDOT was planning to improving that location. Of concern is there will be increased traffic due to the expansion of Fabiono Bros. and concerns of vehicles stacking up in the off ramps into the travel lanes of US-10. It is known that there is little funding available for the project, but Boyd will contact Rivard and Reithel to see if the project can be examined in more detail and to possibly identify some funding.

As there was no further business, the February 16, 2011 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt  
BCATS Director

*Transcribed by D. Westbury*